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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/751,294	01/02/2004	Chih-Hsin Wang	CFP-2365 (15722/616)	2384
7590 05/13/2004				
ALAN D. KAMRATH, NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A., 820 INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3325			EXAMINER GRILES, BETHANY L	
			ART UNIT 3643	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 05/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/751,294

Applicant(s)

WANG, CHIH-HSIN

Examiner

Bethany L. Griles

Art Unit

3643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chou US5987709.

1. Regarding claim 1, Chou discloses a central member 219, 231, a first lateral member 145 and a second lateral member 149 for pivotal and releasable engagement with the central member 219, 231.

2. Regarding claim 2, Chou discloses the central member 215, 217 is a female member while the lateral members 145, 149 are male members.

3. Regarding claim 3, Chou discloses the female member includes a first recess defined in an end 229, 233 and a second recess defined in a second end 229, 233 (refer to figure 4) and the first male member includes a cylinder 145 that can be forced into the first recess and the second male member includes a second cylinder 149 that can be forced into the second recess.

4. Regarding claims 4 and 5, Chou discloses the first and second recesses 215, 213 have a reduced opening to keep the cylinder of the first male member within (see figures 3 and 4).

5. Regarding claims 6 and 7, Chou discloses the first male member includes a bar located opposite to the cylinder thereof to be wound by means of an end of the collar (a collar could be attached to elements 145 and 149).
6. Regarding claim 8, Chou discloses the central member is a male member (elements 217 and 215 could be defined individually as male members) and the lateral members 145, 149 are female (the indentation after elements 145 and 149 could be defined as female members).
7. Regarding claim 9, Chou discloses the male member 215, 217 includes a first cylinder formed at an end and a second cylinder 215 formed at a second end, and the first female member (adjacent element 145) defines a recess into which the first cylinder can be forced, and the second female member defines a recess (adjacent element 149) into which the second cylinder, 215, 217 can be forced.
8. Regarding claims 10 and 11, Chou discloses the first and second female members include a bar located opposite the the cylinder therof to be wound by means of an end of the collar (collar could be connected to element 145 and 149).
9. Regarding claim 12 Chou discloses a cavity 227 in the central portion 219, 231.

### ***Conclusion***

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Seron US5027477; Seron US 5092018; Arntzen US 5195217; Brown et al. US 5408220; Anscher US 5564131; Servatius US 5675875; Barison US

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6073317; Mudge et al. US 6360404; Yurman et al. US 6408493 ; Rietz US 6682249 ;  
Wolfe, Jr. et al. US 6606967; Jones US 4881492

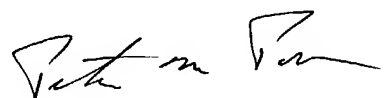
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bethany L. Griles whose telephone number is 703.305.1839. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter M. Poon can be reached on 703.308.2574. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
blg

Bethany L. Griles  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3643

  
Peter M. Poon  
Supervisory Patent Examiner

5/10/07

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